

# **MINUTES OF THE GENERAL MEETING OF THE WOOD RIVER WATERSHED ADVISORY GROUP**

**Tuesday, November 23, 2004  
Carey, ID**

Daryl James called the meeting to order with the following in attendance:

Bob Simpson  
Clint Krahm  
John Straubhar

Joe Schwarzbach  
Bill Hazen  
David Bleu

A motion was made to accept the minutes as mailed. The motion was made and seconded. Motion carried, vote was unanimous.

David Bleu, Idaho Department of Water Resources, gave a presentation on Managed Aquifer Recharge Proposal; Thousand Springs Area, Idaho. David's presentation contained information on the declining aquifer levels and spring discharge that have prompted the need for additional management and mitigation measures for the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA).

The presentation contained information on:

**Recharge Site Location:** The Thousand Springs recharge scenario described in the feasibility report would concentrate recharge within Lincoln, Minidoka, Jerome, and Gooding Counties.

**Canal Capacity and Water Availability:** The ability to deliver water to recharge sites is dependent upon available canal capacity and the presence of adequate natural flows in the Snake River or the availability of water for recharge in the rental pool.

The North Side Canal and Milner-Gooding Canal systems provide incidental recharge and the capacity to deliver water to potential recharge sites. The feasibility report detailed the capacity of each canal to deliver water to recharge site assuming that water could be delivered yearlong with the bulk of recharge water assumed to be delivered during the months of December, January and February .

Water availability was determined by modeling twenty years of flow data at Milner Dam for the years 1982 through 2001.

**Recharge Sites and Modeled Recharge Scenarios:** The ability to recharge is function of canal capacity, water availability, and adequate capacity at recharge sites. However, specific target goals for recharge are less a function of recharge site capacity and more a function of canal capacity and water availability.

**Recharge Using Natural Flow:** The proposed scenario using only natural flow was modeled for the years of 1982 through 2001. Although the results may not reflect future water availability for recharge, the results should provide a reasonable estimate of the baseline for recharge sites.

**Recharge Using Rental Pool Water:** The use of water leased from the rental pool for recharge is a complex matter. Presently, water rented in one year cannot be held over the winter and used the following spring. Additionally, in high water years the use of storage water for spring recharge may be a non-issue, unless additional recharge capacity is developed to make use of excess water in the fall.

**Recharge Using Natural Flow and Rental Pool Water:** Capacity is available to make use of both natural flow and rental pool water for recharge.

**Estimated cost and Proposed Recharge Scenarios and Budgets:**

**\*\* *A full report of the Managed Aquifer Recharge Proposal – Thousand Sprigs Area is on file and available upon request.***

Bill Hazen gave a presentation on the Eastern Snake Plains Drainage Area.

Daryle James moved the elections to the general meeting instead of the executive meeting.

Daryle wished to comment that those individuals on the Executive Board need to realize their responsibility they have as executive board members, and make a special effort to attend the meetings, or let the Chairman, or Secretary know that they will not be in attendance.

**Elections:**

Interest Groups and Representatives:

Livestock: It was moved and seconded that Mark Toone and Dwight Osborne continue to be Livestock Representative and Alternate. Motion approved.

Soil Conservation Districts: It was moved and seconded that Bob Bolte be re-appointed for the SCD Representative. Motion approved.

Conservation/Multiple Use: It was moved and seconded to re-appoint Carol Blackburn and Lee Brown as Representative and Alternate for the Conservation/Multiple Use group. Motion approved.

Irrigate Agriculture: It was moved and seconded to re-appoint Rob Struthers as Irrigated Agriculture Representative. Motion approved.

Municipalities: It was moved and seconded to appoint Bob Simpson as Representative, and Roger Parker as alternate for Municipalities. Motion approved.

HydroPower: It was moved and seconded to appoint Bill Block to take Vernon Ravenscroft's place Representative for Hydro Power. John Straubhar stated he will take the place of alternate on the HydroPower group. Motion approved.

Daryl stated that Bryan Ravenscroft expressed the family's gratitude for the support at this time of the Ravenscroft's family's loss.

Daryle entertained a motion to adjourn the general meeting and move on to the Executive meeting. Motion was made and seconded Motion approved. Where upon the meeting was adjourned.

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Daryle James, Chairman